Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SIG-03 MMO-01 PA-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 EB-08 /117 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USICA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PRAIA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, AUGUST 16, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNEDITED EXCERPT FROM TODAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE. IF NECESSARY, OFFICIAL VERSION WILL FOLLOW.

Q: THERE WAS A STORY TODAY ABOUT \$26 MILLION WHICH HAS BEEN RELEASED FOR ZAIRE, AND ALSO ON THAT, WHAT IS THE STATUS NOW OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ANGOLA SINCE THIS ALL SEEMS RELATED?

A: THE STATUS OF OUR RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA REMAINS AS I HAVE DESCRIBED THEM IN THE PAST. THERE'S NO PARTICULAR UNCLASSIFIED

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CHANGE THERE. IN SO FAR AS THE STORY ABOUT THE \$26 MILLION, THE ARTICLE THAT YOU'RE QUOTING ;VOM?OI SUDPOE, IS -ESSENTIALLY CORRECT. THE \$26 M LLION IS BROKEN DOWNINTO \$18 MILLION IN PL-480, TITLE I, AND \$8 MILLION IN SECURITY SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE FOR ZAIRE.

I WANT TO NOTE A COUPLE OF THINGS HERE. FIRST, THIS IS NOT NEW FUNDING. THESE ARE FISCAL YEAR '78 ALLOCATIONS WHICH WERE HELD UP TO INSURE THAT THEY WERE LINKED TO THE BASIC ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL, AND OTHER REFORMS WE CONSIDERED

NECESSARY TO ZAIRIAN RECOVERY IN THE WAKE OF THE MAY ATTACK ON KOLWEZI BY THE EX-KATANGAN FORCES BASED IN ANGOLA. THE PL-480, TITLE I MONIES ARE FOR FOOD, THAT IS TO SAY ESSENTIALLY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, AND THE SSA IS BADLY NEEDED BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SUPPORT. THE STORY INDICATED THAT THE DECISION WAS BASED ON RECENT REFORM EFFORTS BY PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND ON EFFORTS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA. THAT IS ESSENTIALLY CORRECT ALSO.

THE FIRST STEPS THAT ZAIRE HAS TAKEN TOWARDS REFORMS ARE ENCOURAGING. THESE INCLUDE ITEMS THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY

REPORTED SUCH AS THE BRAZZAVILLE AGREEMENT ON NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA, THE PLACEMENT OF IMF OFFICIALS IN THE CENTRAL BANK AND FINANCE MINISTRY, AND CERTAIN STEPS TO IMPROVE THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION SUCH AS AMNESTY FOR A NUMBER OF ZAIRIANS WHO WERE IMPRISONED ON SECURITY GROUNDS. HOWEVER, IN MAKING THESE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT, WE HAVE ALSO SHARED OUR VIEW THAT MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE IN REFORMS ACROSS THE BOARD -- ECONOMIC. POLITICAL, MILITARY.

WE WILL BE REVIEWING OUR MEDIUM- AND LONG-TERM ASSISTANCE PROPOSALS TO SEE THAT THEY ARE LINKED CLOSELY TO CONTINUED PROGRESS ON REFORMS SUCH AS PROGRESS ON A NEW IMF STAND-BY ARRANGEMENT AND IN THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL REFORMS. WE EXPECT TO BE REVIEWING THESE WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DONOR COMMUNITY IN OCTOBER. A FURTHER REVIEW OF THIS WILL TAKE PLACE IN DECEMBER IN THE CONTEXT OF THE IDRB CONSULTATIVE GROUP.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON WHAT THE OTHER DONOR COUNTRIES ARE CONTRIBUTING?

A: NO.

Q: THERE WAS MENTIONED IN THE SAME STORY THAT BE-CAUSE OF THE ATTITUDE OF PRESIDENT NETO IN COMING CLOSER TO ZAIRE, THAT THE U.S. MAY COME FORWARD WITH SOME KIND OF MATERIAL AID FOR ANGOLA. THAT'S WHY I RAISED THE QUESTION, WHAT IS THE STATUS OF OUR AID TO ANGOLA?

A: WE HAVE INDICATED IN THE PAST THAT WE ARE INTERESTED IN MORE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA. THAT DOES NOT IMPLY NORMALIZATION AROUND THE CORNER OR ANYTHING OF THE SORT, AND AS THE SITUATION DEVELOPS THERE, WE ARE STUDYING IT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO

OFFER IN THE WAY OF ANY PROPOSALS GOING FORWARD AT THIS TIME FOR ANY KIND OF ASSISTANCE.

Q: ISN'T THERE A LEGISLATIVE HINDRANCE ON (INAUDIBLE) TO ANGOLA? WHAT'S THE STATUS OF THAT?

A: I THINK I KNOW IT, BUT LET ME TAKE THE QUESTION ON WHAT THE LEGISLATIVE HINDRANCES WOULD BE TO ANY FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, HUMANITARIAN OR OTHER, TO ANGOLA. CHRISTOPHER

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